

**SOUTH AFRICAN ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PRACTICE / PRIMARY CARE**

LEADING

THE DEVELOPMENT OF

SA FAMILY MEDICINE



DEVELOPMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE SPECIALTY

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Physicians**

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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ACADEMY AND COLLEGE

- **The health profession's response to specialization**
- **1947 The American Academy of General Practice (later renamed the American Academy of Family Physicians)**
- **1952 The College of General Practitioners in Britain – Faculties of General Practice in South Africa affiliated to the British College**
- **1969 The SA College of General Practitioners**



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ACADEMY AND COLLEGE....

- **1970 The Faculty of General Practice of the College of Medicine of South Africa**
- **1972 The first examination of Membership of the Faculty of General Practice (MFGP)**
- **1980 The South African Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care**
- **1994 The College of Family Practitioners (of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa)**

VOCATIONAL TRAINING



- Need for post graduate training before independent practice
- Widespread acceptance during the 70's
- Became mandatory in Britain
- Residency programmes in North America

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.....



- Attempts for mandatory training in SA since the 70' s
- In 2001, The SA Medical and Dental Professions Board sanctioned its committee for General Practice to develop a recommendation for future training in General/Family Practice
- The SA Medical and Dental Board decided that post graduate training in Family medicine be mandatory for independent practice in General/Family Practice

FUTURE TRAINING IN FAMILY MEDICINE



- Mandatory post graduate vocational training before independent general/family practice
- Current general practitioners in practice to continue in a sunset clause

FUTURE TRAINING IN FAMILY MEDICINE



- Proposal for vocational training before independent general practice was “abandoned”.
- As an unnecessary barrier to independent practice – an additional service time to internship and community service

NEW PROPOSAL



- Leave independent general practice alone
- Create a new specialty in family medicine – specialist family physician for public service.
- Family Physicians to work in rural district hospitals and Community Health Centers and as Provincial and District Managers

BOARD DECISION



- Rejected the proposal
- Family Medicine Committee recommended Specialist Physician for public and private.
- No such training required for entry into private GP work
- The Medical and Dental Board passed a resolution to allow Family Medicine onto the specialist register
- Family Physicians taking up positions a Specialists in District health Systems

REGISTRAR TRAINING IN FAMILY MEDICINE



- A collaborative Flemish (ICHO) Academy/FaMEC project to develop VT sites throughout the country
- Existing holders of MCGP and MCFP to convert to Fellowship of the College of Family Physicians in a “grand parent clause”
- ICHO project for Family Medicine training in East Africa



CURRENT HPCSA REGISTRATION

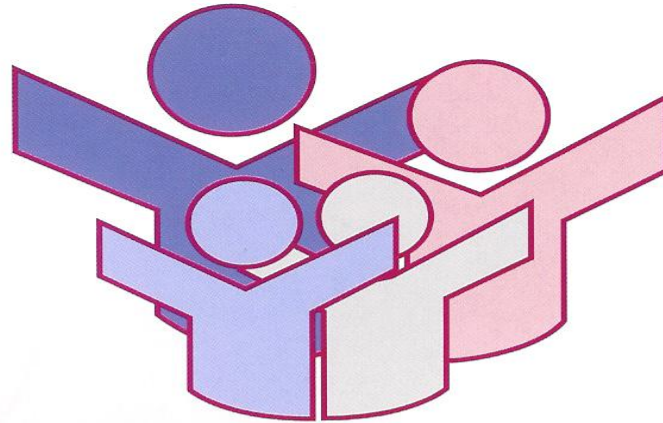
- Medical Practitioners (GP with or without additional training)
- Medical Practitioners with post graduate qualification in family medicine – Family Physicians (Fellows and MMeds)
- Medical Practitioners with specialist training in family medicine – specialist physicians in family medicine

CURRENT SITUATION IN PRIVATE PRACTICE

- **General /Family Practitioners**
- **Family Physicians**
- **Specialist Physicians in Family Medicine**

THE FUTURE

- Up for discussion
- Thank You
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